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2126
Patent



Atty Docket No. 80398.P394

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Examiner: Siddiqi, M.A.
)
Davies, et al.) Art Unit: 2126
)
Serial No. 09/875,670) Confirmation No: 7529
)
Filed: June 5, 2001)
)
For: A Method and an Apparatus for)
The Integration of IP Devices into a)
HAVI Network)
_____)

P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT APPEAL BRIEF

This is a response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed April 5,
2006.

REMARKS

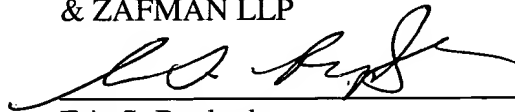
Applicants hereby submit an Appeal Brief Under 37 C.F.R. § 41.37, an Evidence Appendix for Appeal Brief Under 37 C.F.R. §41.37 and a Related Proceedings Appendix for Appeal Brief Under 37 C.F.R. §41.37. Applicant believes there is no fee due. If there are costs involved, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR
& ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: _____

May 4, 2006



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Patent

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

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APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

This is an appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the decision of the Examiner of Group 2126, mailed May 17, 2005, in which claims 1, 3-10, 19, 25-29, 33, and 35-46 in the above-identified application were rejected in a final action. This Appeal Brief is hereby submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(a).

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real parties in interest are the assignees of the full interest in the invention: Sony Electronics, Inc., Park Ridge, New Jersey, and Sony Corporation, Tokyo, Japan.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

To the best of Appellant's knowledge, there are no appeals or interferences related to the present appeal that will directly affect, be directly affected by, or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the instant appeal.

III. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 3-10, 19, 25-29, 33, and 35-46 are pending in the application and were finally rejected in an Office Action mailed May 17, 2005. Claims 2, 11-18, 20-24, 30-32, and 34 are canceled. Claims 1, 3-10, 19, 25-29, 33, and 35-46 are the subject of this appeal. A copy of Claims 1, 3-10, 19, 25-29, 33, and 35-46 as they stand on appeal are set forth in Appendix A.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

No amendments to the claims have been made after receipt of the Final Office Action.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Appellant's invention as claimed in claims 29, 44-46 is directed to a server that communicates with a home network device using a dedicated home audio/video network protocol. [Specification, Figure 2, Paragraph 0028] In addition, the server communicates with a proxy on an Internet Protocol (IP) device with an application programming interface (API) compliant with the Internet Protocol and the dedicated home audio/video network protocol. [Specification, Figure 2, Paragraph 0028] The API provides support to translate and relay calls between the proxy and the server so that the home network device and the IP compliant devices can control each other through the proxy. [Specification, Figure 2, Paragraph 0029-0031]

Furthermore, Appellant's invention as claimed in claims 1-3, 10, 19, 25-28, 33, and 35-43 is directed to a Home Audio Visual Initiative (HAVi) server that communicates with a home network device is a HAVi compliant device using a HAVi API. [Specification, Figure 2, Paragraph 0028] Furthermore, the server communicates with a proxy on an IP device using an IP/HAVi API. [Specification, Figure 2, Paragraph

0028] The IP/HAVi API provides support to translate and relay calls between the proxy and the server so that the HAVi and the IP compliant devices can control each other. [Specification, Figure 2, Paragraph 0029-0031]

Claims 33 and 35-37 are means for claims. Corresponding structure for the means is shown in Figure 2 (claims 33 and 37) and Figure 4 (claims 35 and 36).

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

Claims 1, 3-10, 19, 25-29, 33, and 35-46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0032273 to Cheng et al. (“Cheng”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,694,363 to Yamadaji et al. (“Yamadaji”).

VII. ARGUMENTS

- I. Claims 1, 3-10, 19, 25-29, 33, and 35-46 are Patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Cheng et al in view of Yamadaji et al.

Cheng discloses connecting networks of dissimilar protocols through a thin “glue layer” that translates between the dissimilar protocols. Each glue layer allows an application executing on one network to control a device connected to the other network. The glue layers form a bridge between the two networks. As shown in Cheng’s Figure 2, a HAVi application 230 can control an IP device, such as a web server 180, through glue layer 220. Similarly, an IP application, such as web browser 210, can control a HAVi device 250 through glue layer 260. However, Cheng does not teach or suggest that the bridge formed by glue layers 220, 260 allows either HAVi device 250 or web server 180 to control the other device. In addition, Cheng specifically states that neither the web server nor HAVi device have to be modified for the bridge to work. Instead, Cheng discloses that the components of the glue layers execute on other systems also connected to the HAVi network.

Yamadaji discloses controlling different types of HAVi devices on a HAVi network through a single HAVi controller.

A. Claims 29 and 44-46

Claims 29 and 44-46 stand or fall together. Claim 29 is the representative claim. Claim 29 recites a proxy and an API on an IP device that allows a home network device and the IP device to control each other. Furthermore, claim 29 recites that the API on the IP device is compliant with the home network device's dedicated home audio/visual network protocol.

Appellant respectfully submits that the combination of Cheng and Yamadaji does not teach or suggest each and every element of claim 29. Claim 29 recites both a proxy on an IP device and an API that allows a home network device and the IP device to control each other. In addition, Appellant claims the API is compliant with the home network device's dedicated home audio/visual network protocol. The Examiner is asserting that Cheng's proxy 310, 320—which is part of glue layer 220—is equivalent with Appellant's claimed proxy. However, Cheng's proxy 320 cannot be properly equated with Appellant's proxy on an IP device as claimed. In fact, Cheng actually teaches away from locating the proxy on an IP device, e.g. web server 180, because Cheng specifically states that the IP device does not need to be modified to work with the bridge. Furthermore, Cheng does not teach or suggest that the home network and IP devices can control each other or that the API on the IP device is compliant with a dedicated home audio/visual network protocol as claimed. Yamadaji does not teach or suggest any of the following claimed elements: the proxy and API on the IP device, the home network and IP devices controlling each other, and the compliant API.

Therefore, the combination of Cheng and Yamadaji cannot render obvious Appellant's claim 29 and 44-46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

B. Claims 1, 3-10, 19, 25-28, 33, and 35-43

Claims 1, 3-10, 19, 25-28, 33, and 35-43 stand or fall together. Claim 1 is the representative claim. Claim 1 recites a proxy and an IP/HAVi API on an IP device that allows a HAVi device and the IP device to control each other.

Appellant respectfully submits that the combination does not teach or suggest each and every element of claim 1 for at least the same reasons that Cheng and Yamadaji do not render obvious claim 29, as discussed above.

Therefore, the combination of Cheng and Yamadaji cannot render obvious Appellant's claims 1, 3-10, 19, 25-28, 33, and 35-43 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination.

VIII. CONCLUSION

The combination of Cheng and Yamadaji does not teach each and every limitation of Appellant's invention as claimed in claim 1, 3-10, 19, 25-29, 33, and 35-46.

Accordingly, Appellant respectfully requests the Board reverse the rejections of claims 1, 3-10, 19, 25-29, 33, and 35-46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and direct the Examiner to enter a Notice of Allowance for claims 1, 3-10, 19, 25-29, 33, and 35-46.

Fee for Filing a Brief in Support of Appeal


A check in the amount of \$500.00 to cover the fee for filing a brief in support of an appeal as required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17(c) and 41.37(a) was included with the originally Appeal Brief filed October 17, 2005.

Deposit Account Authorization

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Appellant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR
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Dated: 5/4, 2006

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**CLAIMS APPENDIX FOR
APPELLANT'S BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. 41.37(a)**

1. (Previously Presented) A controller comprising at least one Home Audio Visual Initiative (HAVi) server that communicates with at least one HAVi compliant device using a HAVi application programming interface (API) and further communicates with at least one proxy on at least one Internet Protocol (IP) device using an IP and HAVi API, the server communicating with the IP device via the Internet protocol, the IP and HAVi API providing API support to translate and relay calls between the proxy and the server so that each one of the at least one HAVi compliant device and the IP device controls the other one of the devices.
2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The controller as set forth in claim 1 further comprising an IP device control module (DCM), wherein the at least one HAVi compliant device controls the IP device by accessing a DCM associated with the IP device.
4. (Previously Presented) The controller as set forth in claim 1, wherein the HAVi compliant device is physically located on the controller.
5. (Previously Presented) The controller as set forth in claim 3, further comprising a HAVi stack that enables the IP device DCM to be instantiated independently of bus reset events.
6. (Previously Presented) The controller as set forth in claim 1, wherein the server communicates with IP devices across a first communication medium and HAVi compliant devices across a second communication medium.
7. (Original) The controller as set forth in claim 6, wherein the first communication medium is selected from the group consisting of fiber, optical, cable, wire and wireless networks.
8. (Original) The controller as set forth in claim 5, wherein the second communication medium is an IEEE 1394 network.
9. (Previously Presented) The controller as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a stream bridge configured to capture content from a first device of IP and HAVi compliant devices coupled to the controller and relay it to a second device of IP and HAVi compliant devices.
10. (Previously Presented) The controller as set forth in claim 1, wherein the controller is selected from the group consisting of a HAVi full audio/visual device and an intermediate audio/visual device.

11-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) The Internet Protocol network device as set forth in claim 46, wherein content is streamed between the Internet Protocol network device and the home audio/video network controller.

20-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) A method of integrating an Internet Protocol (IP) device into a Home Audio Visual Initiative (HAVi) network comprising:

coupling at least one IP device to a first HAVi compliant device acting as a controller, the IP device coupled to the first HAVi compliant device through a connection using the Internet protocol, the IP device including a proxy that communicates with a server on the controller;

accessing an IP and HAVi application programming interface (API) and the proxy on the IP device to translate and relay information to a server on the first HAVi compliant device; and

controlling each one of the IP device and a second HAVi compliant device by the other one of the devices through the proxy.

26. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 25 further comprising instantiating an IP device control module (IP device DCM) on the controller corresponding to the IP device, wherein the IP device DCM is instantiated independently of bus reset events.

27. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 25, wherein the second HAVi compliant device is selected from the group consisting of the first HAVi compliant device and a device coupled to the first HAVi compliant device through a network.

28. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 25, further comprising streaming data between the IP device and the controller.

29. (Previously Presented) A method of integrating an Internet protocol network device into a home audio/video network comprising:

coupling an Internet Protocol network device to a home audio/video network device acting as a controller, the Internet Protocol network device coupled to the home audio/video network device through a connection using an Internet Protocol, the Internet Protocol network device including a proxy that communicates with a server on the controller;

accessing an application programming interface and proxy on the Internet Protocol network device to translate and relay information to the server, the application programming interface compliant with a dedicated home audio/video network protocol and the Internet Protocol; and

controlling each one of a different home audio/video network device and the Internet Protocol network device by the other of the devices through the proxy.

30-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Previously Presented) A system for integrating an Internet Protocol (IP) device into a Home Audio Visual Initiative (HAVi) network comprising:

means for coupling at least one IP device to a first HAVi compliant device acting as a controller, the IP device coupled to the first HAVi compliant device through a connection using the Internet protocol, the IP device including a proxy that communicates with a server on the controller;

means for accessing an IP and HAVi application programming interface (API) on the IP device to translate and relay information to the first HAVi compliant device; and

means for coupling a second HAVi compliant device to the HAVi network, wherein each one of the second HAVi compliant device and the IP device controls the other one of the devices.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Previously Presented) The system as set forth in claim 33 further comprising means for instantiating an IP device control module (IP device DCM) on the controller corresponding to the IP device, wherein at least one HAVi compliant device controls the IP device by accessing a DCM corresponding to the IP device.

36. (Previously Presented) The system as set forth in claim 35, wherein the IP device DCM is instantiated independently of bus reset events.

37. (Previously Presented) The system as set forth in claim 33, further comprising means for streaming data between the IP device and the controller.

38. (Previously Presented) The home audio/video network controller as set forth in claim 45 further comprising a device control module corresponding to the Internet Protocol network device, wherein the home audio/video network device controls the Internet Protocol network device by accessing the device control module.

39. (Previously Presented) The home audio/video network controller as set forth in claim 45, wherein the home audio/video and Internet Protocol network devices communicate through mediums selected from the group consisting of fiber, optical, cable, wire and wireless networks.

40. (Previously Presented) The home audio/video network controller as set forth in claim 45 further comprising a stream bridge configured to capture content from one of the home audio/video and Internet Protocol network devices and relay it to the other one of the devices.

41. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 29 further comprising instantiating a device control module on the controller, the DCM corresponding to the Internet Protocol network device, wherein one of the home audio/video network devices controls the Internet Protocol network device by accessing the device control module.

42. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 29, wherein the home audio/video network and Internet Protocol network devices communicate through mediums selected from the group consisting of fiber, optical, cable, wire and wireless networks.

43. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 29, further comprising providing a stream bridge configured to capture content from one of the different home audio/video network and Internet Protocol network devices and relay it to the other one of the devices.

44. (Previously Presented) A home audio/video network comprising:

- a controller comprising a server and a first application program interface that is compliant with a dedicated home audio/video network protocol;

- a home network device coupled to the controller, the home network device comprising a second application program interface compliant with the dedicated home audio/video network protocol, wherein the second application program interface is operable to communicate commands between a program executing on the home network device and the server through the first application program interface; and

- an Internet Protocol network device coupled to the controller, the Internet Protocol network device comprising a proxy and a third application program interface that is compliant with the dedicated home audio/video network protocol and with an Internet Protocol, wherein the third application program interface is operable to translate and relay commands between the server and the proxy, and is further operable to translate and relay commands between the proxy and a program executing on the Internet Protocol network device to allow the home and Internet Protocol network devices to control each other.

45. (Previously Presented) A home audio/video network controller comprising:

- a server and a first application program interface compliant with a dedicated home audio/video network protocol,

wherein the first application program interface is operable to communicate commands between the server and a program executing on a home network device through a second application program interface that is resident on the home network device and compliant with the dedicated home audio/video network protocol, and

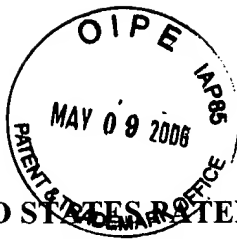
wherein the server is operable to communicate commands to and from an Internet Protocol network device through a proxy and a third application program interface that are resident on the Internet Protocol network device, the third application program interface compliant with the dedicated home audio/video network protocol and with an Internet Protocol, wherein the third application program interface translates and relays commands between the server and the proxy and further translates and relays commands between the proxy and a program executing on the Internet Protocol network device to allow the home and Internet Protocol network devices to control each other.

46. (Previously Presented) An Internet Protocol network device comprising:

a proxy and a first application program interface compliant with a dedicated home audio/video network protocol and with an Internet Protocol,

wherein the first application program interface is operable to translate and relay commands between the proxy and a program executing on the Internet Protocol network device, and

wherein the first application program interface is further operable to translate and relay commands between the proxy and a server coupled to a home network device to allow the Internet Protocol network device and the home network device to control each other, the server resident in a home audio/video network controller that includes a second program interface to communicate commands between a program executing on the home network device and the server.



Atty Docket No. 080398.P394

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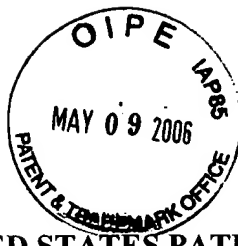
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**RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX FOR
APPELLANT'S BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. 41.37(a)**

NONE.



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**EVIDENCE APPENDIX FOR
APPELLANT'S BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. 41.37(a)**

NONE.